

What is claimed is:

1. (Previously Presented) A flame-retardant compound, comprising:
 - (a) a polyolefin alloy; and
 - (b) a combination of flame-retardant agents,wherein the polyolefin alloy comprises at least one polyolefin thermoplastic and a polyolefin elastomer, and
wherein the flame-retardant agents comprise a nanoclay and at least one inorganic flame-retardant, and
wherein one inorganic flame-retardant is a hydroxide present in the compound of at least about 65 parts, per 100 parts of polyolefin alloy.
2. (Original) The compound of Claim 1, in a form of a surface covering.
3. (Original) The compound of Claim 1, in a form selected from the group consisting of a profile, an article, and a fiber.
4. (Original) The compound of Claim 1, wherein the at least one polyolefin comprises two polyethylene polyolefins and ethylene-vinyl acetate.
5. (Original) The compound of Claim 4, wherein there are at least two types of inorganic flame-retardants, and wherein one is a borate and another is a hydroxide.
6. (Original) The compound of Claim 5, wherein the hydroxide comprises magnesium hydroxide and aluminum hydroxide.
7. (Previously Presented) The compound of Claim 1, wherein the polyolefin elastomer is a metallocene-catalyzed olefin copolymer.
8. (Original) The compound of Claim 7, wherein the polyolefin elastomer is a copolymer of ethylene and octene monomers.
9. (Original) The compound of Claim 1, further comprising additives selected from the group consisting of fillers, antioxidants, stabilizer, lubricants, pigments, biocides, and combinations thereof.

10. (Original) The compound of Claim 1, wherein the compound is essentially halogen-free.

11. (Original) A biocidal, essentially halogen-free flame-retardant compound, comprising:

- (a) an essentially halogen-free polyolefin alloy;
- (b) an essentially halogen-free flame retardant; and
- (c) a biocide consisting essentially of barium metaborate.

12. (Original) The compound of Claim 11,
wherein the polyolefin alloy comprises at least one polyolefin and a metallocene-catalyzed olefin copolymer, and
wherein the flame-retardant agents comprise a nanoclay and at least one inorganic flame-retardant.

13. (Original) The compound of Claim 11, in a form selected from the group consisting of a film, a profile, an article, and a fiber.

14. (Original) The compound of Claim 12, wherein the at least one polyolefin comprises two polyethylene polyolefins and ethylene-vinyl acetate, and wherein there are at least two types of inorganic flame-retardants, and wherein one is a borate and another is a hydroxide.

15. (Original) The compound of Claim 14, wherein the hydroxide comprises magnesium hydroxide and aluminum hydroxide, and wherein the hydroxide is present in the compound of at least about 65 parts, per 100 parts of polyolefin alloy.

16. (Original) The compound of Claim 11, further comprising additives selected from the group consisting of fillers, antioxidants, stabilizer, lubricants, pigments, and combinations thereof.

17. (Original) A surface covering made from a compound according to ~~any of Claims 1-16~~ Claim 1, wherein the compound is in the form of a film.

18. (Original) The surface covering according to Claim 17, wherein the film is laminated to a water-based adhesive.

19. (Original) The surface covering according to Claim 18, further comprising a reinforcing backing laminated to the adhesive.

20. (Currently Amended) A mammalian-occupied space having surfaces having a surface covering according to ~~any of Claims 17-19~~ Claim 1.